

# West Heights, Pontotoc: A breeding ground for ministers

By Tim Nicholas  
Sons and daughters of the late Cora E. Boss, who was a member of West Heights Baptist Church, Pontotoc, have established an endowment to serve as a young ministers' scholarship fund.

And if things continue at West Heights as they have lately, that \$5,700 endowment will stay quite busy.

In the past three years, 13 West Heights members have dedicated their lives to full time Christian service.

The 13 were listed in a special 36th anniversary booklet about the church. Barry Littlefield just graduated from Union University and is pastor of Stanton Baptist Church, Stanton, Tenn. Bill

Hardin just finished at Itawamba Junior College and plans to continue his education at William Carey College. Wayne McDonald is a student at Dallas Theological Seminary, serving in First Church, Dallas. David Mitchell is a student at Mississippi College and a Baptist Student Union summer missionary in Phoenix, Ariz. Kevin Wallace is a student at Union. Randy Moss is preparing to enter college. Steve Reed is a student at Pontotoc High School; Tanya Waters is a former summer missionary, living in Washington state. Dale Fitts is a music and youth director in Jackson, Tenn., while a student at Union. Don Goode has committed his life to volunteer missions. Chuck Sikler is a stu-

dent at Union. Bobby Caples is a math teacher at Pontotoc High and pastor of Turnpike Baptist Church. And Haskell Gillespie has been interim pastor at Lee Memorial Church in Pontotoc.

Jack Gregory, West Heights pastor for nine years, and recently resigned to become pastor of First Church, Poplarville, said that at West Heights "there has always been a stress on service." He said when new members come, they are made to know "God expected something of them—to serve him." Perhaps not coincidentally, the church has offered witness training in a number of forms including lay evangelism school and WIN school.

Linda Willard, a seven-year veteran as church secretary, said the church

seems to have "a history of supporting its young people and standing behind them and supporting them no matter what field they go into."

She credited Gregory with much of the tone-setting, explaining that Gregory's office was always open and that people felt that they could "come in anytime to talk."

Two of the people called into ministry from West Heights church, Bill Hardin and Bobby Caples, were available for conversation with the Baptist Record. Hardin, 19, just out of junior college, was working the summer at a tire store. Caples, 40, teaches math and is a weekend pastor at Turnpike Church. They represent the type of

people making life commitments to ministry.

Hardin's father died when his mother was six months' pregnant with him. Doctors told her that they didn't expect the baby to live. "If you'll just allow him to live," his mother said to God, "I'll give him to you."

Hardin said he'd known since he was 12 that he would go into the ministry. Ed Gandy had been the family's pastor in Hardin's early years and his mother would take him to Gandy's office as a small boy for the three to talk.

Hardin said that it was at a West Heights youth retreat—not quite three years ago—that his friend, David Mitchell, now an MC student, surren-

dered to the ministry. Hardin didn't follow suit then, but he said God again told him, "You're going to have to do that, too." Shortly after the youth retreat, which was led by George Guthrie, Hardin made his move into ministry.

"Bill has been preaching almost every Sunday for two years," said Gregory. "He has great rapport with the youth and is very much in demand." Hardin was interim pastor at Center Hill Church for four months.

Hardin suggests a person considering church vocations to "consider all the other possibilities first." Gregory agrees, "If you can do anything else

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Newton County banquet honors Bible Drillers

Newton County Baptist Association held an awards banquet May 23, at First Church Family Life Center, honoring the youths and children who participated in the Bible drill program of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Newton County had 46 participants representing nine churches: Calvary, Beulah, Hopewell, Emmanuel, Sulphur Springs, Rock Branch, First, Newton; First, Union; and Mt. Vernon. The Association had 20 participating in the Youth Division and 26 in the Children's Division. Each participant was awarded a trophy inscribed with his or her name and the level of

achievement. The Awards Banquet speaker was Tom Winstead, special worker for Bible Drills with the Church Training department with 30 years' experience. Miss Lisa Williams, representing Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. Lisa will represent Newton County Baptist Association during Church Training Week at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly in August. The Bible Drill Program in the Newton County Baptist Association is under the guidance of Terrell Suggs, associational Church Training director and Mrs. Martha Hodges, association Bible Drill director.

## Missionaries enter 100th country

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The reassignment of Jonathan and La Homa Singleton from one Windward Island to another—St. Lucia—places Southern Baptist missionaries in 100 overseas countries.

The Singletons (he's a native of Mississippi) moved south just a little more than 100 miles from the island of Dominica in order to begin the new work. They had been stationed in Dominica since missionary appointment in 1979.

The Caribbean nation of St. Lucia is a former British colony which has en-

joyed full independence since 1979. Baptist work has been limited primarily to the capital, Castries, and surrounding area. The predominant religion of the island's 140,000 people is Roman Catholic.

The beginning of work on St. Lucia coincides with the transfer June 1 of missionaries to Angola, Swaziland and Netherlands Antilles.

The achievement of the 100-country milestone this year puts the Foreign Mission Board well ahead of the pace it must maintain to reach its Bold Mission Thrust intention of having mis-

sionaries in 125 countries by the year 2000.

The board needs to average a net gain of 1.5 countries a year between now and the end of the century to reach 125.

Earlier the board approved the transfer of Curtis and Betty Dixon from Portugal to Angola, the transfer of Roy and Patsy Davidson from Botswana to Swaziland, transfer of Leo and Margaret Waldrop from Surinam to Netherlands Antilles was approved earlier.

## Group arrested for praying in Rotunda

WASHINGTON (EP)—On May 23 a group of 242 Christians, including more than 100 clergy, were arrested for praying in the Capitol Rotunda here. The group had entered the Rotunda to pray for peace and voice their opposition to the funding of new nuclear weapons such as the MX, Pershing II, cruise, and Trident II missiles.

According to police sources, this was the largest mass arrest in Washington, D. C., since the end of the Vietnam war. Most of the group spent Monday

night in jail, where they continued their prayers, singing, and worship into the night.

The next day all were arraigned on a misdemeanor charge of "unlawful conduct." Most pleaded guilty and were sentenced to pay a \$50 fine or serve five days in jail. Fifty-three of the group chose to continue their witness for peace by going to jail rather than pay the fine.

The witness in the Capitol Rotunda was the climax of two days of Peace Pentecost activities sponsored by

Sojourners. Three thousand Christians from around the country participated in an ecumenical Pentecost service at the Washington Cathedral Sunday night and the Monday events at the Capitol.

Activities at the Capitol began with a rally addressed by Walter Fauntroy, D.C. delegate to Congress and a minister, and featured music by Noel Paul Stookey. After the rally, those prepared to be arrested entered the Rotunda carrying bread and flowers.

(Continued on page 3)



Choctaws dedicate COM-built church

Members of Bogue Chitto Baptist Church, Choctaw Indians of New Choctaw Association, dedicated a new sanctuary on June 11, built by Campers On Mission volunteers. The COM had seen photos of the old Bogue Chitto building in the BAPTIST RECORD, adopted building as a project, and raised \$27,000. They still lack about \$3,000, as outside brickwork is yet to be done (building at upper right in photo), and two

porches are to be built. "We don't owe a dime," said volunteers. Individual COM members have donated 75 Broadman hymnals, said Homer Gibson, pastor. Speakers for the 10 a.m. ceremony were Dolphus Henry, associational moderator, and Golden Mason, chaplain for Campers On Mission. The congregation and guests ate dinner on the ground. (Tim Nicholas Photo)

## The Baptist Record

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## Dissidents burn relief truck in Zimbabwe

By Robert O'Brien  
SESSAMI, Zimbabwe (BP)—Anti-government dissidents in Zimbabwe burned a 10-ton Southern Baptist relief truck May 28, threatened to kill its African driver and robbed him of nearly \$1,400.

Despite the incident, missionaries in Zimbabwe voted four days later to continue the massive hunger and relief effort which began in 1982.

Five dissidents, on the run from government troops, attacked Kilian Sibanda at his home in Sessami. He had stopped there briefly en route from transporting corn meal to the starving people in Zimbabwe's drought-stricken Gokwe area. Most of the cash stolen was money people had paid for the meal. Those with money buy their grain at cost and others receive grain free.

The Zimbabwe mission runs two 10-ton trucks twice weekly to the drought area as a first step "band-aid approach" to stave off starvation among the 30,000 Tonga until Southern Baptists' massive "People Who Care" project can develop long-term assistance. The project is a joint effort of Louisiana Baptists, the Foreign Mission Board, and the Zimbabwe mission.

The mission voted June 1 to ask the Foreign Mission Board for another \$455,000 in hunger relief funds to develop the project and up to \$35,000 to

replace the burned truck. The board has already appropriated more than \$1 million for relief work in the area.

Missionaries and Kilian believe the dissidents, who wielded Russian-made AK rifles with fixed bayonets, burned the truck to keep it from being used to report their location. Kilian believes he convinced them it wasn't a government vehicle, but one used for hunger relief.

The youthful dissidents attacked Kilian as he prepared to leave his home

in Sessami after a stopover for a meal and a visit with his wife and children. He usually works 16-hour days trucking food to the Tonga.

One of the young men jumped onto the truck and stuck a bayonet into Kilian's ear. After robbing him of the cash, including \$100 of his own money, the dissidents forced him to pour diesel fuel over the truck. When he refused to torch it, they did it themselves.

The dissidents roughed up Kilian

(Continued on page 4)

## Argentina is a big land, its Baptists aggressive

By Don McGregor  
Argentina is the big, sprawling land that covers most of the southern part of South America that in many ways reminds one of parts of California. The area around San Juan, for example, is called the California of South America because it reminds one so much of the San Joaquin Valley of central California.

Buenos Aires, however, reminds those who have been to Paris of that city.

Argentina is big, and Baptists in that

land are strong and aggressive.

We, Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and I, arrived in Buenos Aires on Good Friday; and that night we visited the Lanus Church in suburban Buenos Aires. This church reflects the positive, progressive attitude of its pastor, missionary Mel Plunk.

On the night we were at Lanus, the church was almost filled; and it is a good sized auditorium. A medical doctor named Acuna and his family were

(Continued on page 2)

### My greatest gift

When I was just a little girl he'd take me on his knee and the greatest gift on earth I'll own, was the love he gave to me.

On sunny days we used to fish in the bayous from the shore I'd soon grow weary, but he'd say, "Let's fish a little more."

So we'd head down the river toward the Mississippi Sound, but when night started falling, we then would homeward bound.

And then before our bedtime, as we worshiped on bended knee, he talked to the Greatest Fisherman and in faith he prayed for me.

I've often fished in the Jourdan River or in the lakes nearby; wherever there was water his fishing luck he'd try.

Sometimes we fished in the Bayou Talla Or in the Gulf of Mexico; wherever he wanted to try his luck I was always ready to go.

Today I stand on the sands of time and dream by the bay alone, for the dearest man I'll ever know has made his way to God and home.

Long ago he made a reservation with the Man of Galilee; now together they are waiting by the Great Eternal Sea.

I visualize his smile on that last day as he fished in Bayou Lacomb when the Galilean met him and took him as his own.

And still I know my daddy's love is centered around the sea for there he's very close to God and very close to me.

—Ruby Nelson Fleming, Waveland



Missionaries Robert Crockett, left, and Toby Walker, right, along with Earl Kelly of Mississippi, second from left, visit with Pastor Antonio Renna and his wife at Moreno Church in Buenos Aires.



Missionary Robert Crockett, center, visits with Pastor Oscar Reichel at Muniz Church in Buenos Aires. Earl Kelly of Mississippi is left.

### What's Inside?

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## Editorials

by don mcgregor

## The influence of a father

Father's Day evokes a special memory for me, for I grew up in a pastor's home. Whatever the experiences that one might have in his younger years, there is nothing quite like that sort of existence.

In a small town such as Merton, Texas (where?), it is a goldfish bowl existence; for everyone wonders what sort of kid the preacher's son is. And the parents of the kids he runs around with hope he is some sort of stabilizing influence, which he would have had to assimilate from his parents.

Of course, in Merton there weren't too many kids to run around with. And most of those who were around were

cowboys who came in off the ranches to go to school. The kids I went to high school with actually wore hats (the 10-gallon variety), a practice unheard of in other parts of the country; and their hats were the first article of clothing donned following a shower in the locker room after a football game or practice.

This is where I grew up, and this is where my father's influence was most pronounced in my life and, I hope, where it had its ripple effect on out into the community.

My father is now 81 years of age. His ministry has spanned 55 years and has

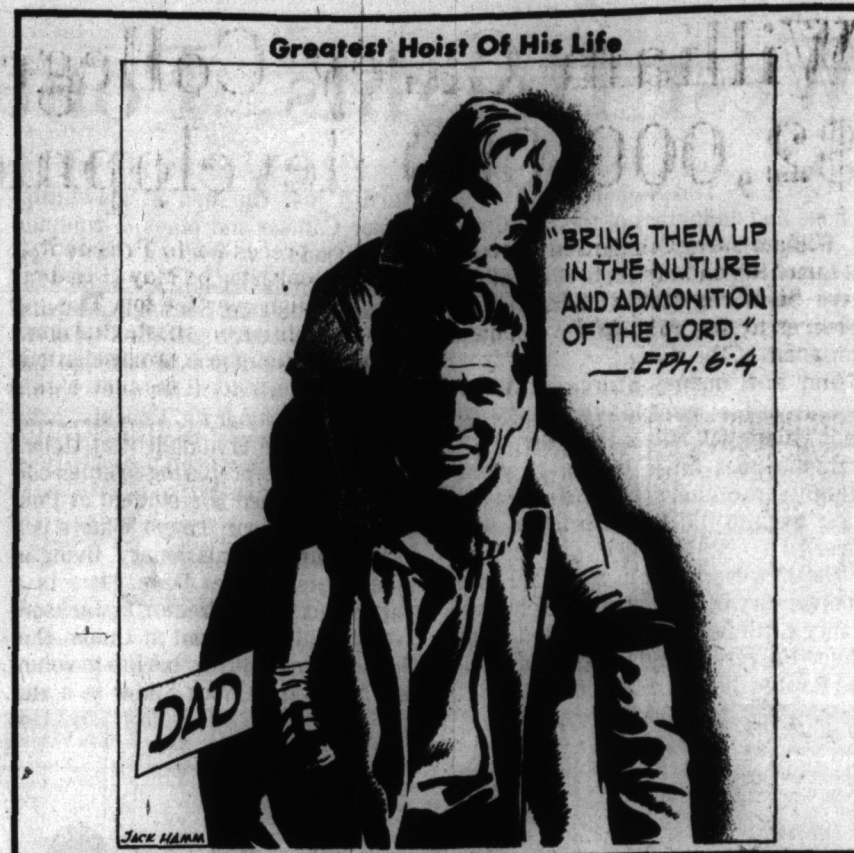
been felt from Merton, Texas, to the southern shores of England as he served as a chaplain during World War II. We served together during that one. I was barely old enough to get in and wound up as a combat machine gunner in France. Following my release as a prisoner of war, he came over from England to France looking for me, but we never made connections. For 22 of those 55 years he was director of missions for the Hope Association (now Southwest Association) in Arkansas.

At this time of Father's Day, it is well to pause to consider the influence that our fathers have had in our lives and to give thanks for that influence

that has lifted us up and caused us to be better able to meet life as we have lived it.

I am not sure that I know what it means to be a Baptist state paper editor. There are only 34 of us in the United States, and whatever we are is whatever we have made ourselves to be. I am not sure how effective I am in trying to be what I am supposed to be. But I am sure of this: whatever I am, it is the result of how I was reared. And if I am in any wise effective in my work, a great deal of the credit comes because of having had a good teacher.

In my case the influence of my father has been profound.



## The ban on liquor advertising

The remarks of Judge Charles Clark of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals regarding hypocrisy and bootlegging were out of place, ill advised, and ill timed.

The judge is quoted in the *Clarion-Ledger*, Jackson morning newspaper, as saying Mississippi's law banning liquor and wine advertisements is a throwback to the hypocrisy of bootlegging days.

In the first place, the court was hearing arguments on the issue; and it would seem that a judge who was to help make a decision would not feel the need of throwing in his own opinion ahead of his participation in the decision.

Later he admitted that the liquor forces got a local option bill through

the Legislature in dry Mississippi by promising that there would be no such advertising. As usual, those kinds of promises are empty from the beginning.

In the second place, I am not convinced that bootlegging days were so much filled with hypocrisy. And even if they were, it's much better to have a law that is not well enforced than not to have any law at all. What would be our lot if we were to decide that since people are going to be shot anyway, we would just do away with laws concerning murder? No, prohibition was not done away with because there were bootleggers or hypocritical situations. It was done away with because the liquor interests didn't want any obstacles to their efforts.

The same condition holds true today. The ban on liquor advertising is such an obstacle.

The most hypocritical condition of all is the continued insistence that a ban on liquor advertising in Mississippi is a violation of the free speech aspect of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. There is talk of "commercial" free speech, as if the Constitution somehow had a special place for freedom of speech in advertising. That is not true, of course. The document simply guarantees freedom of speech, press, religion, assembly, and petition for redress of grievances. Denial of some condition in advertising is not the same as denying a person the right to speak of his convictions in a certain area. Also it is not the same as

guaranteeing a newspaper that it will not be hampered in printing the news and commenting thereon.

Again, it is money, not convictions, that is causing the effort to do away with the liquor advertising ban. The state's advertising media see those media coming from outside the state carrying liquor advertising, and the state's advertising outlets want some of the pie. The only way they can get it is to claim that a law that has been on the books in Mississippi since 1916 is unconstitutional.

Denial of conditions in advertising is not a denial of the freedom of speech. Advertising deals with business and profit. Freedom of speech deals with convictions.

## Memories of Daddy

Tell you what I like the best  
—Long about knee-deep in June  
Bout the time strawberries melts  
On the vine,—some afternoon  
Like to jes' get out and rest,  
And not work at nothin' else.

—James Whitcomb Riley

In June, school is out, and the pupils—and teachers—can have a bit of time to sit and rest. Others start thinking about vacations and summer weekend camping trips.

Daddy, I remember, didn't have much time to sit down and rest in June. "Laying by" time didn't come until near the end of July. Daddy (brunette and slender, about 5'6") was a farmer, as well as a teacher, electrician, plumber, carpenter, painter, gardener, and landscape artist. He loved to see things grow, and was always planting trees and shrubs—crepe myrtle, redbud, dogwood, mimosa, pine, holly. When I moved to Clinton, I transplanted an apple tree that he had planted for me on North Hines St. in Jackson. The last visit he made to my house was in June, 1971, a week before Father's Day. He died that August.

My favorite June chore, when I was eight or ten, was taking Daddy a drink of water at mid-morning, when he was plowing, behind our white horse, Dan. Mama would draw a fresh bucketful from the well, fill a quart jar, and hand it to me.

How thirsty he would be! He would open the jar, turn it up and drink most of the water in a few long swallows. A drop or two would trickle down his chin. If I said I was thirsty, he'd share the water with me. I still remember just the way the humid air in the jar smelled and how good the water

tasted. Then he would grin at me, his hazel eyes twinkling, rest and chat a moment, and then go on with his plowing. I would try to follow his footsteps and would jump barefooted in the soft, moist dirt from one of his tracks to the next.

A couple of years ago, Gordon H. Sansing wrote something in his church bulletin at First, Pontotoc (he's at Vicksburg now) that I liked so much I kept it. Several years before, in another place, he and his small son, Mark, had gone to the church one night on some errand. They walked through the sanctuary and down a hall in the dark. On the way, Mark slipped his hand into his dad's, commented on how dark it was, and asked, "How can you see?" After they'd found a light switch and entered the study, the boy said to his father, "Dad, I love you, because you know the way." Later Sansing wrote, "I cried with joy within myself and prayed to God that I could always lead him right. . . . I do know the way from darkness to light, Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life.' . . . Do I lead others in the way?"

Daddy knew the way. As a Sunday School teacher, he often would practice his Sunday School lessons on Saturday nights, reading the Scripture and telling the illustrations to Mama, Betty, and me. Not long ago, Betty, who is a Sunday School teacher as well as a school teacher now, said to me, "I understand now why he did that!"

If I could say I'd followed Daddy's footsteps in patterning my life, I could say I have done well, for he was following other footsteps ahead of him—those of the Master who had given him Living Water.

## Letters to the Editor

## Baptist Prayer Conference

Editor:  
Baptists throughout America will be called to turn to God in a special season of prayer, mindful of the promise that "If my people who are called by name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Ten Baptist bodies in the United States are sponsoring a Baptist Prayer Conference on the theme, "Turn to me and Live" on April 30 - May 3, 1984. The conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio.

Southern Baptists, through the Women's Missionary Union and the Baptist Joint Committee, are among the groups engaged in preparing for that occasion and ask for the assistance of each concerned Baptist.

Requested at this stage in planning are sermons, poems, hymns, prayers, and personal experiences of prayer. Each should touch on one of the following related themes: All of All, Lord of the Nations, Lord of the People, Lord of the Church, and Lord of Creation.

Individuals are urged to send their contributions to P. O. Box 580, Fremont, CA 94537. Do this as soon as possible, preferably no later than June 30, 1983. And make your own presence at that conference in Columbus, Ohio, a matter of daily prayer.

James M. Dunn  
Executive director  
Baptist Joint Committee  
on Public Affairs

## The great doctrines

Editor:  
I write this letter in reference to your mentioning of fundamentalists in the editorial about Jimmy Draper.

We may disagree or have different opinions on small matters but there should be agreement among Christians on the very basic teachings from God's Word on such things as the inspiration and authority of the true, eternal word of God from Genesis to Revelation; the Virgin Birth of Christ; the deity of Jesus; Christ's sinless perfection, substitutionary blood atonement; literal physical resurrection; the second coming of Christ; a literal burning hell; and salvation by Grace through faith.

The Bible clearly teaches each of these great doctrines.

I believe, according to the Scriptures, if a person has really been saved he will believe these doctrines because the Bible declares them and real faith gives assurance and conviction of them.

If there are professing Christians who do not believe these doctrines, or one of these doctrines, then something is wrong.

George W. Hutto  
Pastor, Hebron Baptist Church  
Yazoo County

## The prayer ministry

Editor:  
Your cooperation with the prayer emphasis of the Southern Baptist Convention of 1983 is deeply appreciated. Because of your help, we have had excellent experiences in organizing and executing the prayer plans. Only our dear Lord in His wisdom knows all the good accomplished.

I wanted you to know that the great good accomplished would not have been possible without your help. I also want you to know of my personal gratitude for your support of the prayer effort.

May our Lord bless you in your vital and unique ministry.

John Sullivan  
First Vice-President  
Southern Baptist Convention

## The equipping center

Editor:  
Here is some more good news from the Clarke Association. At the Executive Committee Meeting on 5-8-83, I was asked to report it to the Baptist Record.

Earlier, the churches of Clarke Association gave \$800 toward the construction of The Baptist Equipping Center at Parchman. Today the Executive Committee voted to give \$400 from the Association to this cause.

The thought is this: With \$800,000 needed to construct the building and with 75 Associations in the state, the share for each one would be \$1,200.

Grady Crowell  
Director of Missions  
Clarke Association

## Argentina is a big land

(Continued from page 1)  
in a revival meeting there. The doctor preached, and the family members provided the music. There were a number of them. They used guitars, trombones, saxophones, trumpets, a piano, and percussion instruments. At the close of the service, the family members lined up across the front of the auditorium to present a final musical selection.

Following the service the church members and the Acuna family members engaged in the practice found all over Latin America among Baptists. They stood around and visited with each other.

Kelly and I were fascinated with the practice, so we stood around, too. We didn't visit much, but it was fun to watch the others. Besides, we were riding with the Plunks; and they are the biggest visitors of them all.

Plunk builds his churches on music. He had used a musical program to build the Oeste Church in Mendoza, and it became one of the most exciting in Argentina. He was called to the headquarters in Richmond from Oeste; but his heart was in Argentina, and he and Suzy returned a little more than a year ago. Already he is building an aggressive congregation with music as building material. Suzy Plunk teaches music in the seminary in Buenos Aires.

The Argentine Baptists appreciate music, and they enjoy singing. They enter into the congregational singing with enthusiasm. On my previous trip in 1981 I spoke in the church in Adrogue. The interpreter had lived in the United States for a time, and we got through early because of his ability. At that point I asked the congregation to fill the rest of the time singing because of the beauty of it.

Ted Stanton, the missionary music coordinator for Argentina, was in Mississippi in Jackson Association in 1981 in a world missions conference. He spent a night in my home on his way back to Arkansas, but I did not get to see him in Argentina. He was busy with preparations for the coming of the Mississippi singing churchmen, who were to arrive a short time later. Material concerning their trip has already been presented in the Baptist

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Record.  
Buenos Aires is a bustling city of nine million inhabitants, and its churches are divided into four associations. One is the main part of the city, or the federal capital; and the others are in outlying zones. The west zone is big, and its churches are active and aggressive. A 14-person Mississippi evangelism team returned recently from a campaign in that zone, and material will be presented shortly. It is being gathered from the participants. The evangelism campaign came at a bad time. It was the week following Easter, and the churches had just completed series of meetings. The campaign was effective beyond all expectations, nevertheless.

Toby Walker and Robert Crockett are the missionaries who work at large among the churches of the west zone. On Monday following Easter Sunday they took us on a tour. It is a big, sprawling area. Traffic is fierce.

The church which is at the farthest point west in Buenos Aires, and that means it is a long way from downtown, is Moreno Baptist Church. The pastor, Antonio Renna, and his wife are both seminary graduates. This church is now sponsoring its second mission. We visited this pastor and his wife on Monday afternoon.

On Monday evening we visited the mission of Moreno Church. This was Muniz Mission, and Oscar Reichel is the pastor. The pastor's salary is shared by the association and the church. When we were there the church was in the midst of a remodeling program, and included in it was the building of an apartment for the pastor on the second floor.

The Wilde Church is in the Federal Capital, and missionary Bob Garrett works with that church. The pastor is Nazareno Gonzalez. During the invitation time at the close of a service we attended there, more than 10 percent of the congregation stood up to indicate an interest in finding Christ as their savior. There were 42 in attendance, and five stood to indicate interest.

One of the five was a teen-aged boy named Juan Domingo. He had been attending for some time, and the congregation had been praying for him. He made a profession of faith.

A trip later in the week to the provinces of Neuquen and Rio Negro, where Baptists are joined together in one association, proved to be of such significance that it will be treated separately in an additional article.

The Argentina trip ended with a tea party at the Once Church in downtown

Buenos Aires. It was a magnificent thing with 200 women in attendance. The tea party was preceded by a farewell service in the auditorium. Each of the 20 women who had been in Argentina to teach the Marjorie Kelly book, "The Gifted Woman I Am," was given an opportunity to speak of her experiences during the tour. It was a touching service, especially as the Woman's Missionary Union president of Argentina presented Mrs. Kelly a plaque in appreciation for the ministry

of the Mississippi women.

Mrs. Kelly responded by saying that the churches in Mississippi will be praying every Sunday for the churches in Argentina.

The question on everyone's mind as the group moved into Argentina was, "How will we be accepted by the Baptists there in light of the Malvinas (Falklands) episode?" There was no need to worry. The reception was gracious, and the spirit was supportive.



Missionary Robert Garrett, left, stands in front of the Wilde Church in Buenos Aires with Pastor Nazareno Gonzalez and his wife.



Missionary Mel Plunk, pastor of Lanus Church, visits with members following the service on Easter Sunday morning.



A church member stands in the door of the Lanus Church in a suburb of Buenos Aires.



Juan Domingo, who made a profession of faith that night at the Wilde Church in Buenos Aires, tries his hand on a harmonica.



## William Carey College subscribes \$2,000,000 development goal

William Carey College announced in a Luncheon on May 14, that \$2,000,000 had been registered in gifts and pledges to the 1983-1988 development program of the college. A check from Wiley and Rodney Fairchild of Hattiesburg presented to President J. Ralph Noonkester on May 11 had put the campaign over the top. This gift was in addition to substantial commitments from these two benefactors of the college, made to the campaign at its outset.



Wiley Fairchild and Rodney Fairchild present to President J. Ralph Noonkester the check that put Carey's campaign over the \$2,000,000.

Major goals and objectives for campaign funds will be an expansion of present library space and the development of a system-wide comprehensive program of media services; increased endowment to undergird college programs and provide student aid during a time of economic recession; improve student services, especially in the areas of personal, social and spiritual counseling, career information, financial counseling and library services; a re-examination of the academic curriculum in order to determine relevancy, and general adequacy in light of the college mission; and the renovation of physical facilities and a systematic program of plant maintenance.

Chief leadership for the successful campaign included Hattiesburg Mayor Bobby Chain, chairman; Wiley Fairchild and Paul McMullan, honorary co-chairmen; Rodney Fairchild, advance gifts chairman; and John D. Thomas, special gifts chairman.

The success of the 1983 development campaign, authorized by the Mississippi Baptist Convention, will strengthen the total financial operation of the college and enrich the total academic program, states Noonkester.

Chief leadership for the successful campaign included Hattiesburg Mayor Bobby Chain, chairman; Wiley Fairchild and Paul McMullan, honorary co-chairmen; Rodney Fairchild, advance gifts chairman; and John D. Thomas, special gifts chairman.

## Four Bay St. Louis men roam to Rome to remake, paint shutters

By Helen Ruchti, Italy  
"How are our volunteers getting along?" asked the Mississippi pastor on a transatlantic call to Rome, Italy. "Are they having a good time?" "They're working hard," I said. "Then they are having a good time," responded Nathan Barber, pastor of First Baptist Church of Bay St. Louis.

Bruce Burroughs, David Ratcliff, Sam Wilburn and Jack Hoda had come to do carpentry work at the Bethany Baptist Conference Center in Rome (Istituto Betania in Italian). They laughed while they worked. Italian conference director, Bruno Colombu, and his wife, Tina, remarked that a group of Italian workers would have been very loud. They were surprised at how willingly and gladly the men did a difficult job of remaking and refinishing shutters for the three-story building.

About eight years ago Robert and Flora Holifield of Mississippi presented a dream of a conference center for Italian Baptists to their missionary colleagues. The Italian Baptist Mission agreed that the Holifields should develop this center for study and retreat. Using a fine building which had been a Baptist girls' school, the Holifields began a long-term refurbishing project.

In 1982, before the Holifields returned to Jackson, Miss., on furlough, the conference center was turned over to the Italian Baptist Union, the organization of Baptist churches in Italy. Bruno Colombu and his family moved from Altamura where he was pastor, and he continued the work which the Holifields had started.

Through a contact of Robert Holifield with a friend, Nathan Barber, arrangements were made for a team of men to come to Rome to work on the building. The men brought a variety of skills in various industries. David Ratcliff is a retired boiler maker. Bruce Burroughs is a retired chemical plant worker. Sam Wilburn works at NASA as a hydrologic technician. Jack Hoda is a calibration technician, but that doesn't hinder his standing in the window sills of the second and third stories to paint window frames.

The men reworked half of the shutters of the building. The grateful director, Bruno Colombu, drove the men to the airport, expressed appreciation for the significant contribution of the

refurbishing of the center.

On Sunday morning of their stay in Rome, SBC missionary John Bane drove the men to worship services at Rome Baptist Church (English language). Missionary William C. Ruchti is pastor of the international church where more than 15 nationalities from all continents of the world participate in an exciting ministry. The volunteers remained after the worship service to

hear the Sunday School lesson taught by a Nigerian pharmacy student.

Their trip to Italy was not the usual tourist sight-seeing jaunt. Their willingness and skill is greatly appreciated by Italian Baptist leaders and missionaries.

(Helen Ruchti, missionary, is press representative for the Italian Baptist Mission.)



Four Bay St. Louis men, at left above, returned from two weeks of volunteer work on the Italian Baptist conference center building Saturday, May 14. They worked a usual work day with lunch in a local Rome trattoria where they were served the usual Italian meal with Mississippi iced tea.

Members of First Baptist Church, Bay St. Louis, Sam Wilburn, David Ratcliff, Bruce Burroughs, and Jack Hoda did carpentry work, remaking shutters for a three story building.

Their pastor, Nathan Barber, made arrangements for the volunteer work with the Foreign Mission Board and with Robert Holifield, a Baptist missionary to Italy, who is on furlough in Jackson. First Baptist Church, Bay St. Louis, paid the expenses for the Bold Mission trip.

The men are pictured with a Kenyan family in front of the Rome Baptist Church.

## West Heights: a breeding ground

(Continued from page 1)  
and be supremely happy, stay out of it."

Bobby Caples, pastor of Turnpike, reflects the same sort of opinion concerning surrender to special ministry. A lay preacher, he had been interim pastor at Oak Hill and Liberty Churches before he surrendered to preach. Since adulthood he'd been active in the church—teaching Sunday School, as men's department director.

"I surrendered to do whatever the Lord wanted me to do," said Caples during a break from grading papers at school.

"It was a pretty hard decision to make," said Caples. "It was just a matter of several surrenderings—my son, my wife, my house that we've had for 17 years." He said that mixing a church job with another "is not the easiest thing to do." He said his wife puts in 20 hours a week working with



## Puppet team goes to Gatlinburg

The puppet team of Grace Baptist Church, Philadelphia, with adult leaders, is conducting day camps and family programs in the Gatlinburg area of Tennessee, June 12-18. The team is working in cooperation with Bill and Cindy Black, Southern Baptist home missionaries engaged in Smoky Mountain resort ministries. Team members were named Goodwill Ambassadors for Mississippi, in a proclamation by Governor William Winter. In a commissioning service June 5, they received a mission challenge from Dennis Duvall, pastor of the newly formed Grace Baptist Church. Pictured left to right, first row: Sondra Wells, Carolyn Akins; second row: Deborah Royals, Michael Wells, Kitty Cumberland, Kim Bridges, Amy Parker, Rosemary Tindle, Andy Thaggard; third row: Ed Royals, Garth Tindle, Renee Thaggard, Carol Parker. Not pictured: Ann Bridges, Jimmy Bridges, Gary Killen.

## Economy pounds Argentina; Baptists hang in there

By Erich Bridges

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (BP)—One year after a costly war with England battered Argentina's tottering economy, the average church member wonders if he can feed his family, much less support his church.

"We have any number of children who come without breakfast," says Sarah Wilson, a Southern Baptist missionary who helps run a church community center in Buenos Aires. One teenage girl has fainted from hunger several times in church. A worker at the community center, adds Wilson, "is asking me to pay her every day because she just can't get through the month. There is no way her salary can make it."

Churches set three- or four-month budgets because the plunging peso makes long-range planning pointless. Formerly strong congregation can no longer support a pastor. The Argentine Baptist Convention struggles to meet payroll for its 50-60 home missionaries.

The churches reflect the nation. After battling the British, Argentina has returned to fighting its old enemy—inflation. The annual inflation rate now orbits near 400 percent, probably the highest in the world. A year ago 10,000 pesos bought a U.S. dollar on the official exchange. Now it buys little more than a dime.

Unemployment climbs and production crawls. The enormous foreign debt—\$40 billion—cannot be repaid. It must be refinanced. If the government defaults on its loans an international banking crisis could result.

Wages can't keep up with inflation; the average worker's real earnings have been slashed in half since 1976 to about \$100 per month. About 90 percent of the work force staged a one-day strike in March to protect government wage controls. Even the prospect of free elections in October, the first in years, isn't generating much hope for the future. Soup lines are appearing on the streets of Buenos Aires.

But Baptists aren't despairing. Though pesos are worth less, church

members are giving more of them so churches can survive. They're also helping each other.

"We've asked people to bring food as often as they can," reports John Divers, Southern Baptist missionary pastor in Buenos Aires. Members at the church he serves operate a food stock and clothes closet and lend money to needy people in and out of the church.

Several churches in Buenos Aires have launched informal "work agencies." Participants keep tabs on job openings and make the jobless members and friends aware of them.

"A lot of help is coming from Southern Baptists," adds Wilson. In 1982 and the first third of 1983 the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board sent nearly

ATLANTA (BP)—The "Intercessory Prayer Line" at the Home Mission Board will continue for the balance of the year.

"I would like to explore the possibility of continuing the phone line. I feel it has a great deal of value not only for the HMB and for missions in America but I think it has great value for us in hearing from the people across our country," William G. Tanner, HMB president, said.

From March 1 through May 22, the prayerline has received 5,411 calls for prayer requests. Approximately 9,300 people have called in to accept prayer requests.

Coordinator Gene Dorsey has kept a record of the prayer victories attributed to the prayer line. The Adirondack Baptist Church in Glen Falls, N.Y., was given six acres of land on which to build; a church desperately in need of a van was informed where they could get one; Texas man calling in for a prayer request learned of a church needing help constructing a building and lent his crew.

\$480,000 in hunger and general relief funds.

The money helped missionaries and Argentines finance food and nutrition education for some "villages of misery" (slums) that huddle around Buenos Aires and other cities; food, clothing, medicine and shelter for victims of chronic flooding in several northern provinces; a milk distribution program run by Argentine home missionaries and vocational training and the construction of two community centers in Buenos Aires.

Argentine Baptists and 61 Southern Baptist missionaries are also planning a five-year, nationwide evangelism program to confront a disillusioned people with the gospel message. (Bridges writes for the FMB.)

# WBU

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Due to a new graduate program, expanded vocational, technical program, and general growth of the institution, Wayland Baptist University announces the following positions open for the fall 1983:

**History** — Ph.D., at least five years experience required; teaching areas: European History and the other social sciences; graduate and undergraduate teaching. Contact: Dr. Don Cook, Chairman, Social Science Screening Committee.

**Psychology** — Ph.D., emphasis in counseling, Ph.D. with teaching experience. Teach graduate and undergraduate classes. Contact: Dr. Don Cook, Chairman, Social Science Screening Committee.

**Physical Science** — Ph.D., ability to teach combinations of earth science, physics, and chemistry. Graduate and undergraduate teaching. Contact: Dr. J. Hoyt Bowers, Chairman, Physical Science Screening Committee.

**Freshman English** — M.A. minimum, ability to teach composition in a communication setting (one year opening). Contact: Dr. Don Cook, Chairman, English Screening Committee.

**Mass Communication** — M.A. minimum, Ph.D. preferred; direct student radio station and student publications; teach journalism and radio. Contact: Dr. John Mitchell, Chairman, Mass Communications Screening Committee.

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**Office Occupations** — M.B.A. required, Ph.D. preferred; combination of various office skills; undergraduate teaching. Contact: Dr. David Knight, Chairman, Business Screening Committee.

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Wayland Baptist University is a Christian liberal arts institution with approximately 1,600 students and is located in Plainview, Texas, a city of some 25,000 people located on the High Plains, south of Amarillo and north of Lubbock. Degrees granted on the associate, bachelor's and master's degree levels. Wayland Baptist University is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.

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## Name is Bolls, not Downey

The names of a Mississippi couple appointed to the Foreign Mission Board to the Niger Republic were reported incorrectly last week in the Baptist Record. They were listed as Donald and Teresa Downey. They are Donald and Teresa Bolls. Downey was her maiden name.

## Group arrested in Rotunda

(Continued from page 1)

They were greeted by a police officer who announced over his bullhorn, "It is unlawful to pray in the U.S. Capitol." Sojourners leader Jim Wallis replied, "Whether it be lawful or unlawful, we are here to pray for peace."

At the same time that this nonviolent civil disobedience occurred in the Rotunda, both houses of Congress were debating appropriations for the MX missile.

## Jerry Clower will host TV show for ACTS

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—Comedian Jerry Clower has agreed to host a television version of the popular "Country Crossroads" radio program for the American Christian Television System (ACTS).

Produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, the program will be a weekly feature on ACTS, Southern Baptists' national TV

network scheduled for launch next May.

Clower will team with Hall of Fame disc jockey Bill Mack on the show. Clower and Mack co-host the radio version of "Country Crossroads," heard each week on 1,422 stations nationwide, and will recreate their roles for the TV version.

The agreement with Clower and Mack covers the first 13 episodes of the new one-hour program, which will be videotaped June 20-24 before an audience at Six Flags Over Texas in Arlington. The Brooks Brothers Band, recently voted the best country band in Texas, will perform on most of the shows.

Country stars scheduled to appear include Helen Cornelius, Roy Drusky, George Hamilton IV, Walt Mills, Susan Raye, and Jeannie C. Riley.

Jim Rupe, producer of "Crossroads" for both radio and TV, said the format of the new show will draw much from the old. Country music and interviews with performers will be mixed with spiritual insight.



Clower and Rupe

the church youth. She's gathering 20-25 for Wednesday evening activities at the church, a record for the church which averages 80-85 total in Sunday School.

Though the youth retreat began the recent flow of surrenderings, the church has a history of having members called into service. That list includes Billie Jean Thomas, Tommy Tutor, David Turner, Margie McGregor, Brenda Sullivan, Vivian Fuqua, David Whiteside, Randy Gillespie, and Mark Tutor.

Pete Evans, pastor of State Blvd. Church in Meridian, once told Gregory, "I believe the Lord has called you to call out the called." And history is showing that West Heights Baptist Church in Pontotoc is the breeding ground.

## YMCA to provide training for exercise leaders

The Jackson Young Men's Christian Association will provide training opportunities for persons interested in conducting aerobic exercise programs in their local church and/or community. Standards are high to qualify for certification, including: be a non-smoker; pass five fitness tests; attend a certification clinic and receive training every six weeks; agree to the use of copyright materials.

Applications are currently being accepted to establish candidates for the certification training to be held Aug. 12-13, 1983. Resumes should be forwarded to Lyla Kennedy, POB 22486, Jackson, Miss. 39205 or write to her at this address. Resumes must be submitted by July 1.

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# Dissidents burn truck

(Continued from page 1)

and repeatedly threatened his life. At one point, he scuffled with a dissident while pushing a bayonet away from his ribs. The man pushed him down and was poised to kill him. "Leave the old man alone," the other dissidents told him.

They forced Kilian, his wife and children to lie on the floor of their home, where they stayed from 5 until 8 p.m., when government troops arrived in search of the fleeing dissidents.

The troops fired a warning shot outside the door. Kilian, mistakenly fearing dissidents had shot a son who had hidden in the garden, rushed to his aid.



Henry Love talks with Sam Cannata, right.

## Dentists, doctors to buy microscope for McNair

A total of 135 persons in the medical and dental field including students and missionaries, plus interested friends, attended the annual Mississippi Medical-Dental Fellowship meeting at Jackson's First Church, May 19.

Sam Cannata, who was a missionary to Ethiopia when placed under arrest, was the featured speaker. He was joined on the program by Major McDaniel, a Mississippian, and missionary to Korea, who sang "Amazing Grace" in Korean. Sue Gray, of First Church, Jackson, was pianist.

The fellowship adopted a constitution and bylaws and elected Joel Alvis, Jackson, president; Lee Cope, Jackson, vice president; and Terry Bailey, Canton, secretary.

The group adopted a project along with other state chapters to purchase a Carl Zeiss Opmi I surgical microscope to assist John McNair in his teaching ministry as professor and director of the Brain Research Laboratory at the

The son, fearing they had shot his father, also hurried to check on him.

Investigating soldiers discovered the dissidents had murdered a soldier on leave in civilian clothing and beaten up some civilians down the road while making their escape.

Reports of kidnapping and violence crop up from time to time as dissidents continue to harass the Marxist-led government. But mission chairman John Faulkner said missionaries personally have experienced no confrontation since missionary Archie G. Dunaway, Jr., a Mississippian, was killed by guerrillas during the country's war for independence from white

rule in 1978. "They realize, however, they could face an isolated incident like this at any time," he added.

"We will be honest with Louisiana Baptists and tell them an element of danger exists," Faulkner explained. "Such problems may cut back on the number of volunteers who will come. The deciding factor will be whether or not they feel called of God to help us meet this overwhelming problem. This is God's project, and those who come here should do so in answer to his call—and only his call."

Faulkner said missionary personnel went into the Sessami area the day after the incident and continue to move freely in Zimbabwe. He said Kilian, an active Baptist layman who was beaten badly by guerrillas during the war for independence, insists he keep on driving.

"The dissidents terrorized him and his family, but he's seen the appalling hunger of the Tonga and how grateful they are just to get enough to subsist on," Faulkner said. "He's also seen their openness to our evangelistic efforts. He's committed to keep going on."

The ambitious three- to four-year plan has anticipated use of more than 250 volunteers from Louisiana in the next 18 months. It includes development of medical and community health clinics, grain grinding mills and storage facilities, agricultural development, evangelism and church development, digging bore holes from clean water, dams, road repair, construction of an air strip for clinic personnel, and cooperative stores operated by the Tonga.

From now on, Baptist vehicles will be marked with huge block letters which read "Baptist People Who Care."

(O'Brien is a missionary journalist in Southern Africa.)

## Evangelism meet planned for Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (BP)—Baptist leaders from more than 40 countries are expected for the World Baptist Congress on Urban Evangelism June 26-July 3 in Rio de Janeiro.

The congress, sponsored by the Brazilian Baptist Convention, will present forums, workshops, and addresses on proven strategies for reaching cities with the gospel.

Session leaders and speakers include Baptist leaders from Brazil, Argentina, Nigeria, the Philippines, Sweden, Mexico, Jamaica, South Korea, and the United States.

Among the scheduled American participants are Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission president James H. Smith; Southern Baptist Home Mission Board evangelism specialist Howard Ramsey; Foreign Mission Board staffers Ervin Haste, Thurmon Bryant, and Alan Compton; evangelist Rudy Hernando; John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, and Jack Stanton, director of Southwest Baptist University's Institute of Evangelism in Bolivar, Mo.

The world congress will also feature a special session for Baptist women, titled "Baptist Women Meeting Urban Social Needs." Congress planners called for a day of prayer June 12 for the congress and for world evangelization.



## Bulletin dedicated to past trustees

Hickman Johnson, dean of academic affairs for the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, points out registration procedures from the newly published bulletin for the seminary. Looking on from left to right are deans from several extension centers: G. L. Ford (Tupelo); Robert Jones (Laurel); Hickman Johnson; and Bill Cox (Sardis). The bulletin is dedicated to two past trustees of the seminary, Jeff Walters, a Southern Baptist who served, 1978-81, and U. S. Polk, a National Baptist who served, 1943-46. The seminary is owned and operated by 18 trustees who are elected by the National Baptist Conventions and by the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The 1982-83 academic year will mark the beginning of the 41st year for the seminary.

## Three SBC agencies join to strengthen mission action

By Carol Sisson  
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—Woman's Missionary Union, the Home Mission Board, and the Brotherhood Commission have agreed to combine their mission action efforts in order to work more productively with Southern Baptist churches, and ultimately respond more effectively to Bold Mission Thrust and its objectives.

Chief executive officers Carolyn Weatherford (WMU), William Tanner (HMB) and James Smith (Brotherhood) signed a formal agreement in February, defining each agency's area of initiative in mission action. The intent is to use the Home Mission Board's expertise in ministering and WMU and Brotherhood's expertise in using volunteers. Marketing and program specialists from the three agencies met this month to begin implementing plans outlined in the agreement.

"All three of these agencies minister and witness to persons of special

needs. This agreement will help us put our efforts together for greater impact and less duplication," June Whitlow, associate executive director for WMU, said.

Primary responsibility for mission action still resides with WMU and Brotherhood. However, the HMB's church missions committee and associational missions will now take the survey to identify mission actions needs and opportunities in the community and association.

Surveying was previously conducted by all three agencies individually. Each still has the option of initiating its own survey, if the need should arise.

WMU and Brotherhood will continue to organize and carry out mission action work in churches but will work more closely with the HMB in using their expertise in identifying and ministering to specific target groups.

(Carol Sisson writes for WMU.)

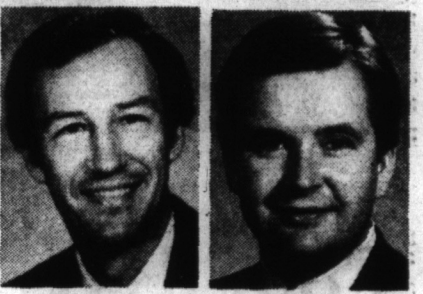
## Price, Madden will teach music leaders

Milburn Price, dean of the School of Church Music at Southern Seminary, will be among the guest clinicians during the Music Leadership Conference at Gulfshore, July 20-23. Price, a native Mississippian, will be teaching classes in "Worship Planning," "Congregational Singing" and will be directing a mass choir.

A special class entitled "Youth music ministries in the '80's" will be taught by Lynn Madden, minister of music at Dauphin Way Church in Mobile, Ala. He will be discussing the areas of motivation and enlistment with youth leaders.

Classes will also be offered in the areas of children's choirs, keyboard, drama and spiritual gifts. There will be a music reading session led by Mississippi ministers of music.

Reservations may be made by writing Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss. 39571.



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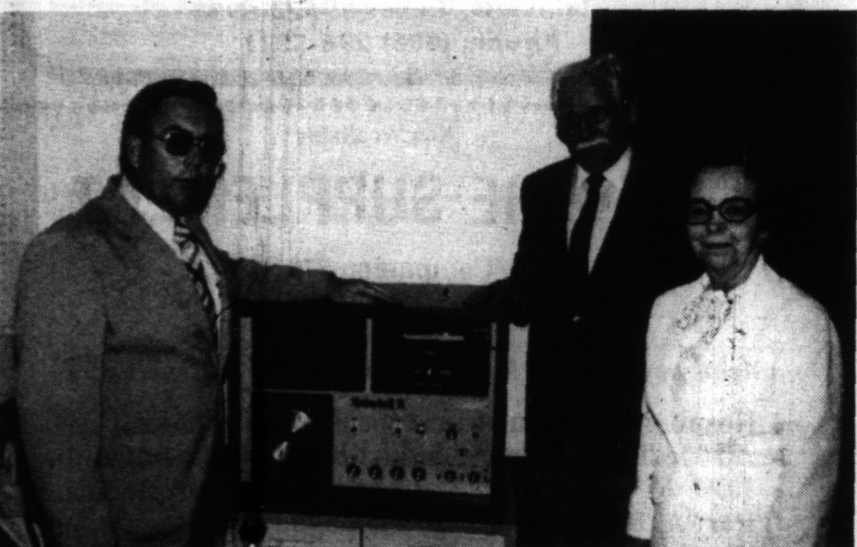
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## Just for the Record



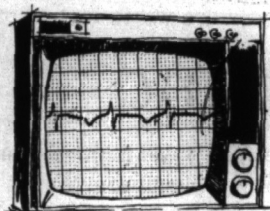
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CARTHAGE, recognized four Acteen queens at a coronation service May 15. From left, Stephanie Hamilton, Kim Gross, Tammy Johnston and Tracey Mathis, were crowned by their fathers.



HICKORY FLAT BAPTIST CHURCH, HICKORY FLAT, has installed chimes and had a service dedicating them. They were given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Bob VanHooser, right, by their children and friends on their 50th wedding anniversary. Phillip Caples, left, pastor, accepted the gift for the church.



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONIES for a new 4,000 square foot fellowship building at SILOAM BAPTIST CHURCH, WEST POINT, were held May 8. The new addition, which has a construction cost of over \$100,000.00, will include a pastor's study, secretary's office, eight classrooms, a fellowship hall, kitchen facilities, and rest rooms. The pastor is Avery Jones.



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Please pray for us; and, if you can be of any assistance, we would certainly appreciate it.

Name and address withheld

Dear Friends: It seems you have about exhausted the usual resources. Have you tried Sellers Home, 2010 Peniston, New Orleans, La. 70115? This institution is operated by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. There are so many like you now and such few adoptable babies. We will join you in prayer and pray for others like you.

You might talk with your son about prayer. (letter edited) While we do not always have our prayers answered the way we desire, God does love us and desires the best for us. What we think to be best is not always best. Be sure to ask your son to rejoice with you that you were able to have him before the surgery became necessary.

If any of our readers have concrete

suggestions, write to us and we will send the leads on to this couple.

Inquiries to Intensive Care are welcomed. Readers who feel the need of being in touch with Intensive Care are encouraged to write. Identities remain confidential. And though the identities of those performing this ministry have been kept confidential to this point, they are well qualified for the service they are rendering. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.—Editor.

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## Resolution pays tribute to life of J.W. Traylor

The deacons of Calvary Baptist Church, Oak Grove community, Hattiesburg, have adopted a resolution of gratitude for the life of Joseph W. Traylor, 56 years a member there, 40 of those years a deacon. Traylor died Mar. 30, 1983.

He had also served as church treasurer for 25 years, building committee member for the church and pastorate, and on numerous other committees.

The resolution, which paid tribute to Traylor, said he "was not only a great leader, but a profound Christian gentleman in the fullest sense of the word, one who by precept and example translated the concept of religion into practical life, whose cleanliness of life and gentleness of character inspired, enlisted, and utilized the best of all who knew him, one who maintained faith, courage, conviction, and devotion to duty consistently throughout the entire period of his fruitful life."

Douglas Benedict is the Calvary pastor.

## Clarke College has graduation exercises

On Thursday afternoon, May 12, the 74th graduating class of Clarke College received diplomas for the Associate of Arts degree.

Announcements were given by Lewis Nobles, president, Clarke College, followed by the graduation address delivered by Bill Baker, pastor, First Baptist Church, Clinton.

Charles Martin, vice president for academic affairs at Mississippi College, and Gary Garner, dean of academic affairs at Clarke, presented and awarded diplomas to the graduates.

Following the ceremony, a reception for the graduates and their families was held in the college cafeteria.

## Two get degrees at Golden Gate

Eighty-two students from 19 states and nine countries were graduated from Golden Gate Baptist Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., on May 27. Baker James Cauthen, distinguished visiting professor of world missions at the seminary, delivered the graduation address.

The conferring of degrees, and charge to the graduates was carried out by Franklin D. Pollard, president of the seminary.

Mississippians who were awarded degrees were Donald Nelson Lee, Cleveland, Miss., Master of Divinity (he holds a B.S. degree from Delta State and M.R.E. from Southwestern Seminary), and Bill Patrick, Jackson, Master of Divinity (he holds a B.A. degree from California Baptist College).

## Sunshine plans lay renewal weekend soon

Sunshine Baptist Church, Pearl, is planning for a lay renewal weekend June 24, 25, 26. Team members will come from all over the state to share in the program, and 14 chairmen and their committees are involved in different aspects of the planning.

Covered dish suppers will be held Friday and Saturday evenings, fol-

lowed by general and small group sessions. Small groups will meet at coffee on Saturday morning. Men's and women's luncheons will be held Saturday at noon.

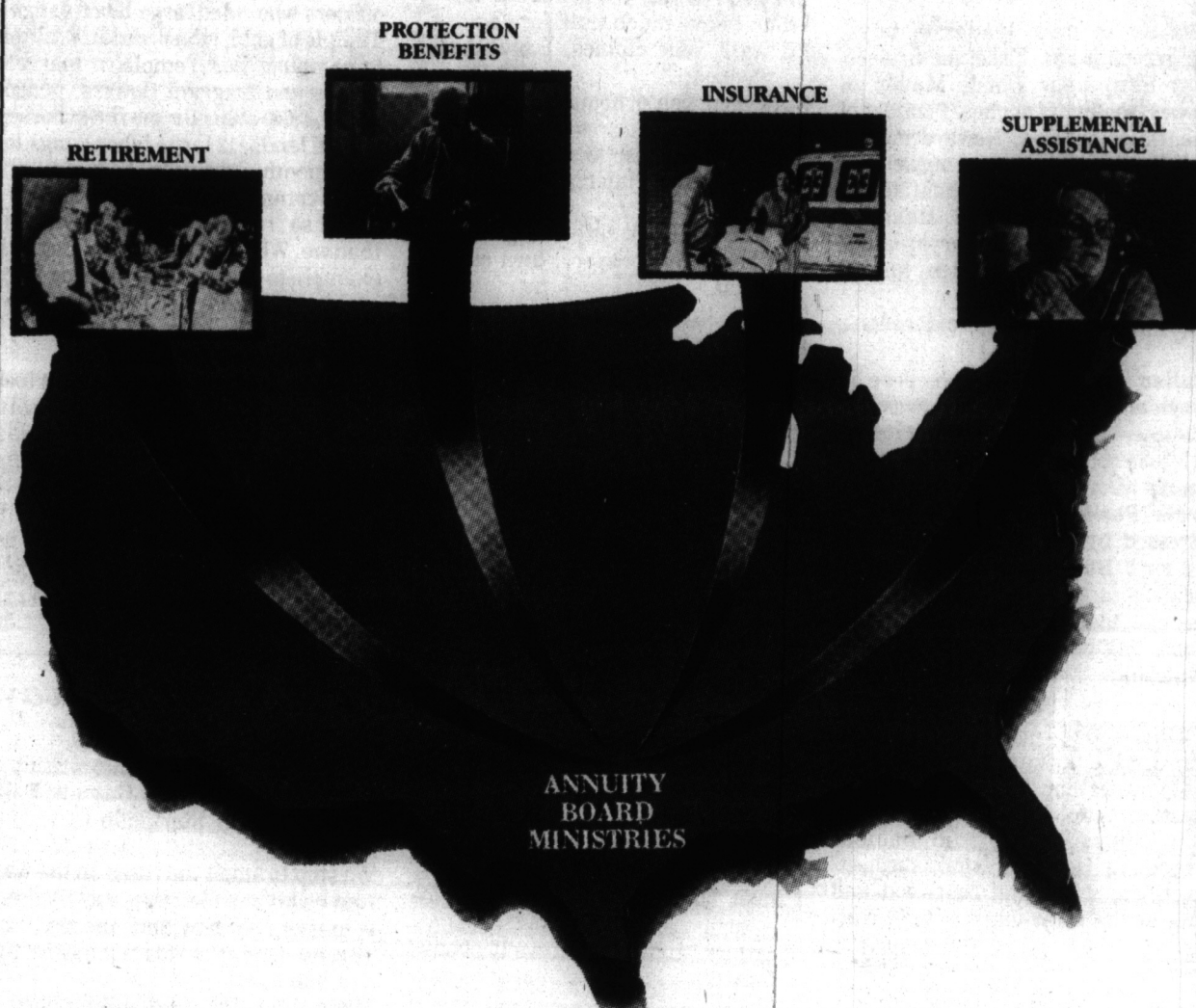
The pastor, Sam Creel, states that this is a 42-hour event in which "layman will share with layman how he has discovered a meaningful faith."

Registration begins Friday afternoon at 5, at the church, and team guests will be present until after lunch on Sunday.

Mishaps are knives that either serve us or cut us as we grasp them by the blade or by the handle.—James Russell Lowell

## Annuity Board Ministries

*Serving those who serve the Lord*



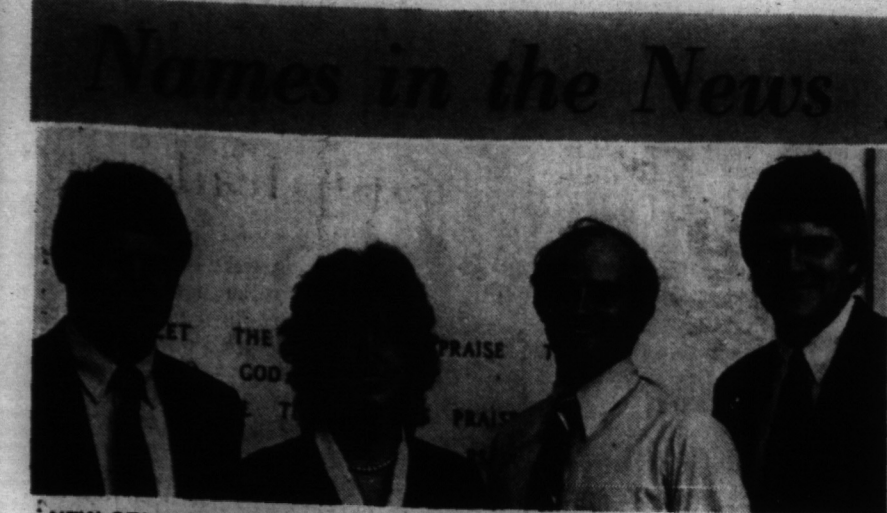
The Annuity Board is in its 66th year of ministry to Southern Baptists. As an integral part of the Southern Baptist Convention, the Board administers protection and security to Southern Baptist church and denominational employees through retirement and insurance programs.

June is the time designated by the Convention to emphasize our ministries. Make this your opportunity to see that your church is taking full advantage of all of the protection and

security benefits offered in the Southern Baptist retirement and insurance programs.

For complete information on these programs, write the Annuity Board/Marketing Division, or call our toll free InfoDial service at 1-800-527-9010 or 1-800-527-9003. Texas residents may call 1-800-442-7053.

Our motto is the same today as it was 66 years ago—Serving Those Who Serve the Lord.



NEW ORLEANS—Officers of the Mississippi Club at New Orleans Seminary for 1983-84 are (from left) Robin Jumper, president, Etta; Regina Prishmont, secretary, Biloxi; John Gibson, vice president, Macon, Ga.; and John Stevens, publicity chairman, Clinton. All are Mississippi College graduates.

Hyman Appelmann, the Russian-born evangelist who conducted crusades around the world, died May 27 in Kansas City, Mo. He was 81. Appelmann came to the United States in 1914, earned a law degree from DePaul University and was converted while stationed in Oklahoma with the U.S. Army. He later was pastor of several Southern Baptist churches in Oklahoma and was state evangelist for the Baptist Convention of Texas in the 1930s. A reported one million people made profession of faith in Christ during his crusades in the United States, Korea, Germany, India, and other parts of the world.

Gary Sparrow was ordained to the gospel ministry by Goodyear Baptist Church, Picayune on May 29. The sermon was delivered by Don Stewart, executive vice president, New Orleans Seminary, and father-in-law of the candidate. The charges were delivered by William Clawson of William Carey College and Darryl Wood, pastor at Goodyear. Sparrow and his wife Sandra will move to California this summer, where he will attend Golden Gate Seminary and work with Christian High Adventure.

Jack H. McEwen, has resigned as dean of the school of religious education and as professor of religious education at Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky., effective July 31, 1983. McEwen moved to Southern three years ago from First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., where he had been senior minister for seven years. He has accepted a position as professor of psychology and director of community development at Chattanooga State Technical Community College.

David Barnes of Jackson (graduate of Mississippi College, currently enrolled in Southwestern Seminary) will spend the summer as camp pastor for the Baptist Sunday School Board's Centrifuge youth program at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Glorieta, N.M. He will preach nightly to youths attending the camp from churches all across the convention.

## Pray for MKs

June 18—Elizabeth A. Lee, France, University of Southern Mississippi.

Nancy Clement has accepted the call as summer youth worker of First Baptist Church, Calhoun City. Nancy, an English major, is a 1983 graduate of the University of Mississippi where she served two years as vice-president of BSU. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Clement. Her father is pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Houghton, La.

Dolton Haggan is the new pastor of Pochontas Church, Hinds-Madison Association. He formerly lived in Philadelphia, where he was missionary, working with the Mississippi Choctaws.

Buel (Bill) Patton has accepted a call to become pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, DeSoto County. He has served several churches in Mississippi and Alabama and one in Utah. Patton is the son of Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Patton, Lauderdale. He was graduated from Clarke College and the School of Christian Training at New Orleans Seminary.

Liberty Baptist Church, Carroll County, has called Harry Sartain as pastor. He and his family have moved there from Newton Association.

Pine Forest Baptist Church, Montgomery County, has called John A. Wade as pastor.

Darryl Joseph Petry assumed the responsibility of minister of music and youth at Second Baptist Church, Indianola, on May 15. He previously had a similar responsibility at Easthaven Baptist Church, Brookhaven.

Wade Allen, Jr. has been called as summer youth director, Leavell Woods Baptist Church, Pontotoc. He is a graduate of Southwestern Seminary.

Agnes Batson, who has served 15 years in the Mississippi Church Music Department, resigned effective the middle of June to begin working with the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Her new responsibilities will be in the Church Training Department.

Millard L. Swinney of Olive Branch, state chaplain for the American ex-prisoners of war, will speak at their state convention at Leavell Woods Clubhouse, Jackson, on Sat., June 18, at 7 p.m. The subject will be "Our Service to God, Our Country, and Our Fellowmen."

Alleen Jones Day, 81, died May 19, in Winston County Hospital, Louisville. The funeral was held at First Baptist Church, Louisville, where she was a member, May 21, with Jimmy D. Porter officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Brookhaven. Survivors include her husband, W. L. Day, retired Baptist pastor, Louisville; a son, W. C. (Bill) Day of Nashville, Tenn.; three grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

J. Rayford Woodrick, minister of the Briarwood United Methodist Church, Jackson, will become editor of the Mississippi United Methodist Advocate on June 16. His appointment was announced by Bishop C. P. Minnick, Jr., bishop of the Jackson Area. Woodrick succeeds Roy Lawrence, who has served as editor of the Advocate since 1966. Lawrence is returning to the pastoral ministry at his own request. The Mississippi United Methodist Advocate is the official publication for United Methodists in the state of Mississippi. It was founded in 1947 and now has 19,500 subscribers. Woodrick, 48, is a native of Meridian.

Franklin Owen, recently retired executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, has been named to the faculty of Boyce Bible School, Louisville, Ky., effective August 27. Owen will have three primary responsibilities at Boyce, said David Q. Byrd, Mississippian, director of the school. He will be a field representative for Boyce, visiting in Baptist associations and state conventions and meeting pastors and prospective students on behalf of the school. He also will direct Boyce's field education; helping students gain experience in ministry, and he will teach courses on the practice of ministry.

## Revival Dates

Carson Baptist Church (Jeff Davis): June 26-30; at 12 noon and 7:30 p.m.; Junior Hill, full-time evangelist from Hartselle, Ala., who was featured speaker at the state evangelism conference this year, preaching; Thomas Lott, professor at William Carey College, directing the music; Charles E. Maples, pastor.

Shady Grove (Smith): June 19-23; Sonny Adkins, full time evangelist from New Hebron, preaching; Ronnie Cottingham, music evangelist from Lucedale, singing; services 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Sun., with dinner on the grounds; weekday services 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; LaRue Stephens, pastor.

## R. C. Henderson, seminary prof, dies

Richard Charles Henderson, chairman of the department of the New Testament and Greek at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis, died at his home on May 19. He was 54.

At the time of his death he was serving as interim pastor at First Baptist Church, Horn Lake, Miss.

He was graduated from Wheaton College and Central Baptist Seminary and received his doctorate from the University of Edinburgh.

During his ministry, Dr. Henderson served as pastor in Kansas, Virginia, and North Carolina.

From 1963-67 he served under the Foreign Mission Board as academic dean, acting president and chairman of the New Testament Department at Ghana Baptist Seminary, Ghana, West Africa. From 1967-73 he was chairman of the New Testament Department of the Philippine Baptist Seminary in Manila.

He leaves his wife, Mrs. Katherine Virginia Stough Henderson; two daughters, Mrs. Alice Kay Ford of Joplin, Mo., and Mrs. Elizabeth Sue Henry of Fort Worth, Tex., and a son, Charles Raymond Henderson of Horn Lake, Miss.; one sister; one brother; and two grandchildren.

Bay Springs (Kemper): June 19, dinner on the grounds; revival June 19-24, with services each evening at 7:30; Edward McKeithen, Eight Mile, Ala., preaching; J. M. Snowden, pastor; cottage prayer meetings in progress this week.

Providence, Pearl: June 22, 23, and 24, at 7 p.m.; Buford Easley of the William Blvd. Baptist Church, Kenner La., evangelist; Bennie McBride, Pearson Church, to lead the music; Harry Gipson, pastor.

Johns Church (Rankin): June 19-24; Latham Bray, Michie, Tenn., evangelist; Bob Coleman, song director, Pearl; Mrs. Fred Gill, pianist; services on Sunday at 11 a.m. followed by dinner in the fellowship hall and an afternoon service at 1:15; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m. W. J. Murray, pastor.

Corinth (Tallahatchie): June 19-24; Sunday services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; week night at 7:45 p.m.; Gerald Shook, pastor, Paynes Baptist Church, visiting speaker; Bennie Champion, music director of Corinth Church, in charge of music; Matthew L. Greer, pastor.

Montpelier (Clay): June 12-17; services at 7:30 p.m.; Bobby Long, pastor of Shiloh Church, Chickasaw County, evangelist; Artie Holloway, music director at Parkway, Houston, leading the singing; Frank Childress, pastor.

Pulaski (Scott): June 19-24; Sunday 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. 7:30 p.m.; James Spencer, FBC, Morton, evangelist; Dusty Rhodes, Springfield, Morton, music director; Bob Smith, pastor.

Smyrna (Copiah): June 19-22; homecoming celebration Sunday, June 19, with dinner on the ground; services Mon.-Wed. at 7:30 p.m.; music director, Dennis Stringer, Jackson, to bring special music at each service; pastor, Tommy Purser, to preach.

Gatesville (Copiah): June 26-29; evangelist Curtis Williams of McLaurin Heights, Pearl; music by Cecil Harper; homecoming June 26 at 10 a.m.; evening services 7:30; William Wright, pastor.

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# SCRAPBOOK

## Fathers are special

Fathers are more than figureheads  
To make the family complete;  
They were designed by a holy God  
To head the home as its priest;

To guide with a firm but a gentle hand;  
To provide for his family's needs;  
To protect from harm the best he can;  
And instruct by words and deeds.

All children need fathers they can  
trust,  
Who can show them the meaning of  
life,  
Lest they follow false destructive  
paths  
That lead them to grief and strife.

## A father's day prayer . . .

Mender of toys, leader of boys,  
Changer of fuses, kisser of bruises,  
Bless him, dear Lord. Mover of  
couches, soother of ouches, Pounder of  
nails, teller of tales, Reward him, O  
Lord. Hanger of screens, counselor of  
teens, Fixer of bikes, chastiser of  
tykes, Help him, O Lord. Raker of  
leaves, cleaner of eaves, Dryer of dis-  
hes, fulfiller of wishes, Bless him, O  
Lord.

—Heidbreder

Called padre in Spanish, pere in  
French, otets in Russian and otosan in  
Japanese, Dad in different parts of the  
world has roles that differ even more  
than his many names. In some of the  
sterner Puritan households, he was  
addressed by his offspring as "hon-  
ored sir." But among the Trobriand  
Islanders of the South Pacific, chil-  
dren call their sires by a term that  
means "my mother's husband." —In  
A Nutshell.

Father's Day, originated by Mrs.  
John Dodd in Spokane in 1910, is a  
uniquely American institution. An in-  
teresting echo of the Father's Day  
feast comes down from ancient  
Greece. In Homer's time, the patri-  
arch was given the best food and  
drink at the feast table. —In A Nut-  
shell.

Receive every inward and outward  
trouble, every disappointment, pain,  
uneasiness, temptation, darkness and  
desolation with both hands, as to a true  
opportunity and blessed occasion of  
dying to self and entering into a fuller  
fellowship with thy self-denying suf-  
fering Savior.—John Wesley.

The wisdom of fathers must come  
from God,  
Tested and proved to be true.  
To train up a child in the way he should  
go  
Takes love, and time, and patience,  
too.  
God, give us fathers, wise and fair;  
And bless them for their loving care.  
We thank them for the special joys  
No one but dads could share.

—Ina Hayes Jenkins  
Laurel

## Take time

My hands were busy through the day.  
I didn't have much time to play.  
The little games you asked me to.  
I didn't have much time for you.  
I'd wash your clothes, I sewed and  
cooked,  
But when you'd bring your picture  
book,  
And ask me please to share your fun.  
I'd say, "a little later, son."  
I'd tuck you in all safe at night.  
And hear your prayers, turn out the  
light.  
Then I'd tiptoe softly to the door.  
I wish I'd stay a minute more.

Now you are seven and my, how time  
flies by!  
A little baby no more. —  
But guess what I've learned —  
My hands, once busy, now must be  
still.  
I take my time and enjoy the thrill  
of each exciting ball you hit,  
and enjoy a little wit.  
The t-ball games and the fun we have.  
We'll share now the laugh and tears,  
of a little boy in years.

A little sister comes along  
with a little fun and song.  
But I'm slowing down.  
For with my son I learned to.  
My hands, once busy, now have slowed  
down.  
I must take my time and enjoy the  
thrill  
of games, and fun that we'll always  
instill.

—Beth Chenault, Saltillo

The pessimist says of trouble: "It's  
enough to make a person lose his reli-  
gion," while the optimist says: "It's  
enough to make a person use his reli-  
gion."

## Devotional

### Solomon defines true value

By Kate Durham Morgan, Jackson

Solomon was granted the greatest wisdom of all time that he might judge Israel well. In his old age he allowed his foreign wives to detach him from close fellowship with God. Removed from the desire to use his wisdom to fulfill God's will in the leadership of Israel, his unparalleled wisdom became vain and a striving after the wind. When he had used his wisdom to be a partner with God in guiding God's people, his wisdom had been glorious and wonderful. Applied to us and our time, what does this say?

(1) Is our chief purpose in life pleasure? Do we work to have money to spend for things we call pleasure? Do we turn our backs on all principles of right that we may seek what is publicly accepted as pleasure? Do we detach ourselves from closeness to God that our conscience will allow us to partake in the generally accepted forms of so-called pleasure?

Who could speak of pleasure with more authority than Solomon? He was the richest, wisest, most powerful king of his age. He had 250 chief officers who ruled large labor gangs of subject nations; he built the magnificent Temple of gold, silver, cedar, embroidered hangings in gold, taking seven years to complete this Temple, a marvelous palace, sunken garden with rarest of shrubs and fragrant flowers, peacocks and lovebirds, fountains of sparkling water, 4,000 stalls for the finest horses and chariots, 12,000 horsemen from Egypt and all lands, 12 large labor gangs to supply food for his gigantic court—one for each month of the year; he was ruler of the then known world, with kings subject to his command (2 Chron. 9:22-28).

And so from personal achievements Solomon can speak with more authority than we. What did he say? As long as he was building a great empire to be a great example to the world of the kind of people that serve Jehovah, people who were great, good, kind, God loving—that was a magnificent, thrilling, and fascinating time. But when it became an end in itself it was vanity and a striving after the wind.

(2) Does personal achievement hold first place in your object of living? Hear again Solomon; he is always out in front of us with the answer. He had 250 chief officers who ruled large labor gangs of subject nations; he built the magnificent Temple of gold, silver, cedar, embroidered hangings in gold, taking seven years to complete this Temple, a marvelous palace, sunken garden with rarest of shrubs and fragrant flowers, peacocks and lovebirds, fountains of sparkling water, 4,000 stalls for the finest horses and chariots, 12,000 horsemen from Egypt and all lands, 12 large labor gangs to supply food for his gigantic court—one for each month of the year; he was ruler of the then known world, with kings subject to his command (2 Chron. 9:22-28).

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And so Solomon as an old man looks back on the years of his life in which he drifted from Jehovah's high and holy purpose in his life (as the greatest king of the greatest nation, under the greatest God) and said, "Knowledge, wisdom, wealth, popularity, ease, pleasure, personal achievement, and in the greatest degree, apart from God's will, are all vain and a striving after the wind."

Well, Solomon, what is of value? Down through the echoing halls of the centuries Solomon's answer comes to us. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter—Fear God and keep his commandments."

Kate Durham Morgan (Mrs. W. C.) is a member of Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jackson.

## The way to heaven

(The inspiration for this writing is my beloved pastor Bill Garrett, Faith Baptist Church, Starkville.)

We stop to smell the roses on the way  
And count our blessings day by day.  
It matters not how dark the sky,  
There will be no clouds in the sweet bye  
and bye.

Many times the road will be hard to  
travel  
For the way will be strewn with rock  
and gravel.  
But it matters not how we groan and  
sigh  
There will be no sorrow in the sweet  
bye and bye.

Heaven is not reached by a single  
bound,  
We must climb the ladder round by  
round.

It matters not how to we weep and cry  
There will be no heartaches in the  
sweet bye and bye.  
The lightning may flash, the thunder  
may roll

But nothing will disturb the peaceful  
soul.  
For it matters not how dark the sky  
There will be no clouds in the sweet bye  
and bye.

—Zilpha Ellis Huber, 80  
Starkville



## Bassfield dedicates rec building

Bassfield Baptist Church dedicated its new recreation building on June 5, in the morning service. Lunch was served in the new building, and open house was held from 2 until 5 p.m. On Oct. 31, 1982, "Miracle Day," \$17,000 was contributed toward the building cost. On Nov. 1, construction began, with members and friends of the church doing the work. In December, exterior walls were raised, as shown. Tommy Arinder pastor, said three important factors went into completing this building in record time—"money, generously contributed; a lot of faith, which was necessary, long hours of hard work by the members—which was fantastic."

## Bethsaida celebrates 100th anniversary

By Thomas C. Mowdy

On May 8, friends and kinfolk came together nearly 400 strong to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Bethsaida Baptist Church, Rt. 4, Philadelphia. In contrast with a hundred years ago, when the church was of rough board construction, with glass windows that opened where mules and horses were tied to trees, and boards were nailed up between trees for outdoor eating—on that spot we sat on red cushioned seats, with a red carpeted floor, air conditioning, a sound system, and overhead lights. We feel sure that in their greatest imagination our forefathers would never have dreamed that the little church in the green forest would one day become a massive brick structure with modern conveniences.

We all came that we might give thanks to our forefathers, and praise God for his blessings. Sprinkled among the congregation were some who were in the sunset years of their life. They at one time were babies in arms when the church was younger. We were honored to have them.

With Roy McHenry, Bethsaida pastor, at the helm, at 10:30 a.m. the congregation came alive with the first song, "Brethren We Have Met to Worship." The book written by the Historical Committee was reviewed by the Committee Chairman Thomas C. Mowdy, touching on the highlights of

the past 100 years.

It being Mother's Day, a special song, "Mother is Waiting For Me," was sung by Bruce and Danny Skinner. Then "Faith of Our Fathers" was sung by Bruce Skinner, Danny Skinner, Gladys Vaughn, and Jessie Vaughn.

Pastor McHenry brought the morning message. It was now lunch time, with plenty of country food. Attending as former pastors were L. Gordon Sansing, O. P. Moore, Paul McDonald, Herman Pilgrim, Jerry McMullin, and Cal Cooley.

Kermit Sharp brought a message in the afternoon, "Appreciation for the Church's Influence." Sharp is a native of Bethsaida community.

Son and daughter of Johnny and Royce Smith, and Bernice Smith, their grandmother, sang "Amazing Grace," while the grandmother played the piano. Last came the oldest former pastor of Bethsaida. From his command in the pulpit L. Gordon Sansing kept the church in laughter, while lashing out with a message we all enjoyed.

Pictures of some of the charter members, and of the church constructed in 1894 were on display.

Blessings we enjoy daily; and for the most of them, because they be so common, most men forget to pay their praises. —Isaiah Walton

## Bible Book

### Elijah encounters God

By Joe H. Tuten, pastor,  
Calvary, Jackson  
I Kings 19:1-21

The lesson this week is entitled "Elijah's Encounter with God," based on I Kings 19:1-21. It could be considered a study in the emotional syndrome of a preacher. Elijah had experienced a great spiritual victory at Mount Carmel. When he mocked the false prophets of false Baal and prayed down fire from heaven, the people of Israel who were there fell on their faces and said, "Jehovah, he is God; Jehovah, he is God" (I Kings 18:39).

Then when Elijah prayed for rain and there came a great downpour which broke the three-year drought, Elijah thought Ahab had been convinced and led to faith. The great spiritual victory that would turn Ahab and the nation from Jezebel's entrenched Baal worship back toward Jehovah, and for which Elijah had prayed so earnestly, seemed certain.

Elijah, stretching his own faith to its limits, and earnestly wrestling in deep prayer, had hoped so desperately to win Ahab to faith and a strong stand for Jehovah. He outran Ahab's chariot all the way to Jezreel, perhaps, if you please, in expectation that King Ahab would make his public profession of faith and issue an order, even in the face of Jezebel's horrible temper tantrum, that all the altars of false Baal throughout the land of Israel should be destroyed. Alas, all that had happened on Mount Carmel had failed to reach Ahab for God.

Elijah flees to Horeb (I Kings 19:1-13) When Ahab arrived at Jezreel, instead of taking a stand for Jehovah, he reported to Jezebel what had happened at Carmel. His soul still was in her hands. The conversion for which Elijah had prayed so fervently and worked so earnestly simply was not there. Ahab took no stand for God. He was wrapped around Jezebel's finger, and Jezebel had a missionary zeal for Baal worship. Infuriated about Ahab's report of how Elijah had humiliated Baal's prophets and then killed them, she swore her revenge.

There was no acknowledgement of the wonderful rain which God had sent that would save life in the land. There was no evidence that Ahab recognized the living presence of God and his gracious blessings.

When Elijah received Jezebel's vengeful threat, he fled the country and went to Beersheba, down in the country of Judah (I Kings 19:3). There would be no need to apologize if Elijah had fled because he was afraid of

Jezebel. Fear of real danger is sensible. But Elijah was not afraid to die. He soon prayed to die (I Kings 19:4). He fled because he was discouraged over his failure to bring Ahab to the point of faith in God.

You may want to remember that any prophet of God is more often discouraged than he is frightened. He sometimes comes to the point of saying, as did Elijah, "It is enough" (I Kings 19:4). But Elijah discovered, as Abraham had said, and as many of God's people have learned, that "God will provide" (Genesis 22:8). There was no valium hidden under the roots of that juniper tree, but God's angel touched Elijah and gave him strength to go "forty days and forty nights unto Horeb, the mount of God" (I Kings 19:8).

God confronts Elijah (I Kings 19:9-18). This is one of those great and inexhaustible passages of scripture. Let me underscore three points. First, God's repeated question, "What doest thou here?", is worthy of being pondered frequently by any believer but especially by the prophet of God. The "here" may have to do more with attitude and outlook and abiding faith than with location. Second, Elijah found that God was a "still small voice." God is not a screaming and shouting person. That is the devil. Third, God helped Elijah see that the warfare was not over because Ahab failed to respond, but that the effort would be carried forward through Hazael of Syria, Jehu of Israel, and Elisha, a new prophet to take Elijah's place. God's work always has a future.

The call of Elisha (I Kings 19:19-21). Elijah, the Tishbite, found Elisha, the son of Shaphat, and cast his prophetic mantle upon him. Elisha at first sought to delay his response and demurred in his commitment (I Kings 19:20a). Elijah, on the other hand, refused to accept responsibility for Elisha's response (I Kings 19:20b). But the call was authentic, and Elisha came to grips with it. He went back and "sold his business" and "arose and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him" (I Kings 19:21). Elisha might well have written the wonderful words which have rung in the hearts of many of God's people, "Wherever He leads, I'll go."

Middle-age is when what used to give your heart throbs now gives you heartburn.

Have you ever thought what Swiss cheese might smell like if it were not ventilated?

## Uniform

### Caleb: loyal and patient

By John G. Armistead, pastor,  
Calvary, Tupelo  
Numbers 13:30-33; 14:24; Joshua 14:8-12

Some people can, others cannot. Some are winners, others are losers. Some can overcome extraordinary odds and achieve success, others give up without even trying. What is the difference between the two kinds of people? Basically a strong healthy self-confidence refined to its purest and strongest form by a total confidence in God makes the difference. Caleb had this kind of confidence.

After remaining a year at Sinai, the Hebrews were led by Moses on an eleven day march to Kadesh Barnea in the wilderness of Paran. This was just to the south of Canaan, the land God had promised them. They were on the very threshold of realizing their dream of possessing the land.

At God's command Moses first sent out twelve spies, one representing each tribe (Num. 13:1-16). He instructed them to bring back a report on the condition of the land and its inhabitants Numbers 13:18). Such information would be vital in carrying out the planned invasion.

After forty days of roaming the land the spies returned reporting that it was indeed a land which "flows with milk and honey" (13:27). They even brought a sample of the fruit which grew there to validate their report. They also reported that the cities were strongly fortified and the land was inhabited by several kinds of people, the most formidable being a race of exceptionally large people called the Anakim (13:28, 29).

Before them lay their great opportunity. The land was promised them by God. Yet the challenges were also great. It would not be possessed without a struggle.

I. The difference faith makes (Numbers 13:30-33).

Caleb was the tribe of Judah's representative in the band of spies. He was about forty years old at this time and a man of outstanding courage. The people had reacted with fear at the news about the feared Anakim, but Caleb silenced them and proposed, "Let us go up at once and possess the land because we are well able" (v. 30). Caleb was ready to go immediately and had every confidence of victory. He was a man of courage, strength and especially faith. This faith made him positive and optimistic.

Ten of the other spies (Joshua seconded Caleb) raised the voices of doubt. Whereas Caleb said "We are

able" they said, "We are not able" (v. 31). They measured themselves as "grasshoppers" compared to the enemy (v. 33). Lacking faith that the God who parted the Red Sea would provide victory again they expressed negative pessimism. They were defeated before even trying.

Both Caleb and the doubters saw the same land, the same cities, the same people. The difference was that Caleb with the eyes of faith in God's strength saw victory and the others without faith and possessing no vision of God's help saw only defeat.

II. The reward faith brings (Numbers 14:24).

The people were swept away by the report of the majority, wanted to evict Moses from leadership, elect someone who could lead them back to Egypt and kill Caleb and Joshua (14:1-10). God's response, however, was to assure Caleb he would one day reach the land he saw. He had a "different spirit" and had wholeheartedly followed God (v. 24). Thus God would reward such faith.

III. The penalty for lack of faith (Numbers 32:10-12).

Because of their lack of faith the people were not fit to be used by God to possess the land. He promised that each one who came out of Egypt above the age of twenty would die in that wilderness. Only Joshua and Caleb were excepted. Lack of faith in God excluded the rest from the great blessings God had wanted to give them, just as lack of faith always excludes one from seeing God at work.

IV. The ultimate triumph of faith (Joshua 14:8-12).

After the death of Moses, Joshua led the next generation into Canaan. Five years were spent in fighting to gain a foothold in the land. Then the united Hebrew advance ceased and Joshua proceeded to distribute the land among the tribes. Before any decisions were made, however, Caleb and the men of Judah came forward. Caleb reminded Joshua of the promise God through Moses had made to him 45 years earlier. He had been promised Hebron, the specific area inhabited by the Anakim with their strongly fortified cities. "Now therefore give me this mountain," demanded the 85-year-old Caleb (v. 12). He was still the man who wanted the biggest challenge. Joshua, of course, granted his request.

Caleb was definitely no grasshopper. In his spirit he was much larger even than the giant Anakim. Faith made the difference.

## Life and Work

### A man obeying God

By Beverly V. Tinnin, pastor,  
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Jonah 3:1-10

When Jesus spoke the words on the cross, "It is finished," it seemed at first he was saying, "My life is now over in the flesh." Upon closer scrutiny, it may be concluded he had reference to "the plan of redemption." He had indicated the same in his prayer recorded in John 15 when he said, "I have finished the work you gave me to do."

The divine part was accomplished, now it was up to his disciples to carry the "good news" to lost people. He has no hands, feet, no lips but ours. Redemption waits on human messengers who are obedient to his "Great Commission."

Last week we considered Jonah's refusal to go to Nineveh with God's message. The ship he boarded sailing in the opposite direction was caught in the clutches of a giant storm "thrown by God" in its path. Jonah confessed to the sailors it was his fault God sent the storm. We left him as he was thrown overboard and the storm ceased. The sailors offered sacrifices to God and promised to serve him, so even in disobedience Jonah was used by God as an instrument of salvation.

Today's lesson begins with a great fish prepared by God gulping Jonah down his gullet and saving him from drowning. In the belly of the whale, though unrepentant, he promises to go on the preaching mission to Nineveh. God caught the fish to vomit him up on the beach.

Jonah preaches in Nineveh (3:1-4).

A second call to service is forthcoming, repeated both in verses 1 and 2. This time he obeyed. His heart was not really in it for he had agreed out of necessity. As the old saying has it, "whose mind is changed against his will is of the same opinion still."

He journeyed to the capital city of the great Assyrian empire. The modern land of Iraq is located there today. Excavations were made on the site of Nineveh a century ago and many artifacts are preserved today in the British museum in London. The massive ruins verify that the city could be covered on foot only by a three day journey. He traveled a day into the city and began to preach. His lack of enthusiasm for his task is indicated in that throughout that first day he didn't preach to the people he passed. Then the shortest sermon recorded in the Old Testament was delivered: "Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown."

The people of Nineveh repented (Vv. 5-9).

"The people of Nineveh believed God." Nothing is said about the messenger but the message that saved them, that brought them face to face with God. It is a fact that the word frequently prospers despite us, and not because of us.

It would seem the least likely people on earth to repent when confronted with the word of God were the Ninevites. But the record shows that time and time again in the most unexpected places faith has been kindled.

The sincerity of their repentance is indicated by the great and small humbling themselves in sack cloth and giving up nourishment for a season. The great king joined his people in proclaiming a decree of fasting. Even the animals were deprived of food to add their cries with the people's in urgency to implore mercy from God.

Best of all, the king called on the people to turn aside from their evil actions. Amended lives are a requisite for true repentance.

The king shows rare insight in adding, "Perhaps God will change his mind." Praying is like this. We tell God what is on our heart and leave it to God to do what he decides to do. God cannot be manipulated, but acts on his own initiative.

God calls off destruction of Nineveh (V. 10).

The gods of the Medes and Persians, as other pagan gods, never altered their plans. Throughout the Old Testament the freedom of God to do as he wills is pointed out. He can always change all circumstances when we permit him to. As long as there is life, there is hope.

Jonah ends in thinking God was like the pagan gods and could not change his mind. God always resists our efforts to curb his freedom. We can be thankful he determines his own course of actions and is not directed by limited and prejudiced judgment of men.

## Revival Results

Crenshaw Baptist Church, Crenshaw: youth-led revival; Apr. 27-May 14; Rodney Bowling, student at Blue Mountain College, evangelist; Charles Fowler, student at Blue Mountain College, music leader; T. F. Grubbs, pastor; fourteen decisions; 10 for baptism (the oldest of these ten was an 80-year old lady, coming from a Catholic church, and the youngest an 8-year-old boy from one of the church families).